

Message Text

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43

ACTION AGR-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-04 COME-00 TRSE-00 FRB-01

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 8944

PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: APAP ETRD EEC

SUBJECT: BEEF IMPORT BAN

REF: (A) EC BRUSSELS 8323, (B) EC BRUSSELS 8564

1. HIJZEN, ON HIS INITIATIVE, INFORMED USEC AND CANADIAN OFFICERS OF DISCUSSIONS SOAMES HAD TODAY WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MAJOR BEEF EXPORTING COUNTRIES ON THE EC BEEF IMPORT BAN. HIJZEN SAID THE THRUSE OF SOAMES' COMMENTS WAS THAT SUPPLYING COUNTRIES SHOULD BE UNDER NO DELUSION THAT THE IMPORT BAN WILL BE RELAXED ANY TIME SOON. CATTLE PRICES IN THE COMMUNITY ARE CONTINUING TO FALL AND INTERVENTION STOCKS ARE STILL INCREASING (THE NOW TOTAL 215,000 MT). UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE COMMISSION CONSIDERS THAT THE COMMUNITY CANNOT LIBERALIZE THE IMPORT SYSTEM IN THE NEAR FUTURE, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THE LARGE BEEF SUPPLIES IN NON-EC COUNTRIES.

2. HIJZEN HOPES THAT THE COMMUNITY MAY BE IN A POSITION TO BEGIN PHASING IN IMPORTS IN THE SPRING OF 1975 BUT HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE EC IS NOT MAKING ANY PROMISES.

3. WE REITERATED OUR CONCERN OVER THE IMPACT THE BEEF BAN MAY HAVE ON IMPORTS ON THE THE US. IN THIS REGARD, WE RECALLED
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SECRETARY BUTZ' COMMENTS TO LARDINOIS ON THE POSSIBLE INCREASE

IN AUSTRALIAN BEEF PRODUCTION IN 1975 AND THE LACK OF LARGE
OPEN MARKETS (OTHER THAN THE US) FOR THAT BEEF (REF B).

4. THE BEEF SUPPLYING COUNTRIES PROBABLY WILL MEET AGAIN WITH
THE COMMISSION IN DECEMBER FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ON THE
EC IMPORT SYSTEM. HIJZEN SAID THAT BY THAT TIME THE COMMISSION
MAY HAVE ALREADY COME FORWARD WITH PROPOSALS FOR REVAMPING
CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE BEEF CAP. HE SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT
THESE PROPOSALS WOULD CONTAIN. MYERSON

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